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ACTION HCRE-00

INFO OCT-00 ADS-00 H-01 ARA-16 HA-08 AMAD-01 /026 W  
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R 111247Z JUL 83  
FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7871

UNCLAS BUENOS AIRES 04622

H PASS ALSO FOR ARA/SC AND HA/HR

E.O. 12356: N/A

TAGS: SHUM, AR

SUBJ: CONGRESSIONAL CORRESPONDENCE: BAMBALLI CASE

ARGENTINA PROJECT (S200000044)

U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/IPS

Margaret P. Grafeld, Director

(X) Release ( ) Excise ( ) Deny

Exemption(s):

Declassify: ( ) In Part ( ) In Full

( ) Classify as ( ) Extend as ( ) Downgrade to

Date Declassify on Reason

TO: THE HONORABLE HAMILTON FISH, JR.  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515

DEAR MR. FISH:

YOUR LETTER OF JUNE 14 CONCERNING THE DISAPPEARANCE OF  
CARLOS BAMBALLI ARRIVED HERE ON JULY 7.

MEMBERS OF MY STAFF HAVE BEEN IN TOUCH WITH THE BAMBALLI  
FAMILY ABOUT THIS DISAPPEARANCE SINCE EARLY MAY. WE SENT  
A FORMAL NOTE TO THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS ON MAY 11  
ASKING FOR WHATEVER INFORMATION THE GOVERNMENT OF ARGENTINA  
MIGHT BE ABLE TO PROVIDE ABOUT THE CASE. WHEN WE DID NOT  
RECEIVE A REPLY BY THE END OF JUNE, WE RAISED THE CASE  
WITH HIGH-LEVEL OFFICIALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INTERIOR.

TO DATE, NEITHER WE NOR ARGENTINE OFFICIALS HAVE BEEN ABLE  
TO DETERMINE WHAT MAY HAVE HAPPENED TO MR. BAMBALLI. THE  
MINISTRY OFFICIALS TOLD US, HOWEVER, THAT THIS CASE SHOULD  
NOT BE CONSIDERED A HUMAN RIGHTS CASE LINKED TO THE ISSUE  
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OF PEOPLE WHO DISAPPEARED DURING THE WAR AGAINST SUBVER-  
SION DURING THE LATE 1970S. INSTEAD, THEY MAINTAINED THAT

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THIS CASE SHOULD BE VIEWED AS A MISSING PERSONS CASE  
SIMILAR TO THOSE THAT OCCUR IN BIG CITIES AROUND THE WORLD  
ALL THE TIME. THEY NEVERTHELESS PROMISED TO INFORM US IF  
A POLICE INVESTIGATION DETERMINES THE WHEREABOUTS OF MR.  
BAMBALLI. I WILL FORWARD WHATEVER INFORMATION WE RECEIVE  
TO YOU.

YOUR INTEREST IN THIS CASE HAS BEEN COMMUNICATED TO THE  
GOVERNMENT OF ARGENTINA.

SINCERELY,

HARRY W. SHLAUDEMANN  
AMERICAN AMBASSADOR  
BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA  
SHLAUDEMANN

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